In purity of manhood stand upright,
And say, *This man's a flatterer*?* if one be,

And in support of this conjecture, he observes, that the Saxon *d* is frequently converted into *th,* as in murther, *murder,* burthen, *burden.,* &c. REED.

That the passage is corrupt as it stands in the old copy, no one, I suppose, can doubt; emendation therefore in this and a few other places, is not a matter of choice but necessity. I have already more than once observed,, that many corruptions have crept into the old copy, by the transcriber's ear deceiving him. In Coriolanus we have *higher* for *hire,* and *hope* for *holp ;* in the present play, *reverends* for *reverend'st;* and in almost every play similar corruptions. In King Richard II. quarto, 1598, we find the very error that happened here:

«----------and bedew
" Her *pastor's* grass with faithful English
blood."

Again, in As You Like It, folio, 1623, we find, " I have heard him read many *lectors* against it;" intead of *lectures.*

Pasture when the *u* is,sounded thin,, and *pastor,* are scarcely distinguishable.

Thus, as I conceive, the true reading of the first disputed word of this contested passage is ascertained. In As You Like It, we have—(t good *pasture* makes fat sheep." Again, in the same play:

" Anon, a careless herd,
" Full of *the pasture,* jumps along by him,"
&c.

The meaning then of the passage is,—' It is the land alone which each man possesses that makes him rich, and proud, and flattered; and the want of it, that makes him poor, and an object of contempt. I suppose, with Dr. Johnson, that Shakspeare was still thinking of the rich and poor *brother* already described.

I doubt much whether Dr. Johnson himself was satisfied with his far-fetched explication *ofpastour,* as applied to brother; [See his note] and I think no one else can be satisfied with it. In order to give it some little support, he supposes *ct This* man's a flatterer," in the following passage, to relate to the imaginary *pastor* in this ; whereas those words indubitably relate to *anyone* individual selected out of the aggregate mass of mankind.

Dr. Warburton reads—wether's sides; which affords a commodious sense, but is so far removed from the original reading as to be inadmissible. Shakspeare, I have no doubt, thought at first of those animals that are fatted *by pasture,* and passed from thence to the *proprietor* of the *soil.*

Concerning the third word there can be no difficulty. *Leans* was the old spelling of *lean,* and the *u* in the MSS. of our author's time is not to be distinguished from an *n.* Add to this, that in,